

REMARKS

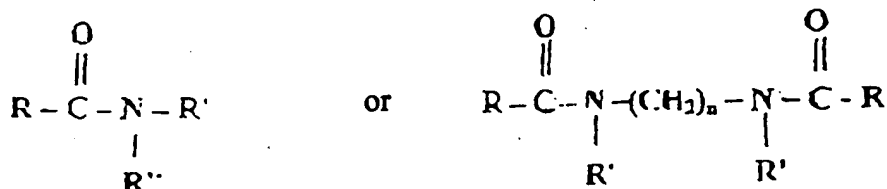
Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks presented herein.

The claims in the application are claims 10 to 15, all other claims having been cancelled. Claim 10 has been amended to call for an alcoholic solution of the impregnating agent as set forth in the last paragraph of page 9.

Claims 10, 12 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over British patent No. 1,082,236 and claims 11 and 13 were rejected as being obvious over the British patent taken in view of the Wernick et al patent. Claim 14 was rejected as being obvious over the British patent taken in view of the Baker patent. The Examiner states that the British patent teaches an aqueous emulsion for impregnating textile substrates comprising a novolac or a mixture of resol and phenol, said resin be a thermo-hardening resin. The Examiner deems the reference teaches stearamide and oleamide as "loosening agents and softeners". Wernik is cited to show specific resins and Baker is cited to show methanol as a solvent.

Applicants respectfully traverse these grounds of rejection since the British patent taken alone or in combination would not teach Applicants' invention to one skilled in the art. Applicants' invention is directed to an impregnating agent of at least one liquid

thermosetting binding agent and 1 to 15% by weight of fatty acid amides and/or substituted fatty acid amide of the formula



wherein R is alkyl of 10 to 30 seconds atoms, n is an integer of 1 to 6 and R' and R'' are hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms in an alcoholic solution. Fiber inserts impregnated with the said compositions can be stacked without a separating sheet since they will not adhere to each other.

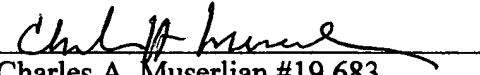
In contrast thereto, the Baker patent relates to an entirely different field, namely coating compositions for impregnating sheets of paper for the manufacture of a combustible cartridge of good physical strength which completely burn when fired.

The British patent relates to a different field, namely impregnating fibrous material for manufacturing a substrate for printing wiring which may be punched to provide holes for electrical connections. Therefore, overskilled in the art would not combine the references as the Examiner has done with the benefit of Applicants' teaching. Moreover, Baker uses a slurry as compared to Applicants' solution. A slurry has the disadvantage of having to remove the solvent.

The British patent relates to emulsions and not an alcoholic solution and the emulsion is comprised of a thermo hardening low-molecular weight resin of phenol and/or resol with formaldehyde which emulsions are used to impregnate paper. Emulsions are not alcoholic solutions and there is no suggestion of 1 to 15% by weight of Applicants' amides to be added to a liquid thermosetting binding agent. A suggestion that a "loosening agent or softner" may be added at any desired point in time does not suggest Applicants' compositions. Therefore, withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is requested.

In view of the amendments to the claims and the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly point out Applicants' patentable contribution and favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures



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